

THE TIDES  
OF THE OCEAN BEACH  
Low Tide Today 6:55  
Low Tide Tomorrow 8:00  
Tides and afternoon tides occur  
at approximately the same hour, so  
the figures given apply both forenoon  
and afternoon.

Fourth Season—No. 26

FISHING TACKLE and  
Other SPORTING GOODS...  
We have anticipated your wants  
—you will find our line complete.  
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Every facility for the proper treat-  
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Right Goods at  
Right Prices,  
Disposition to Treat You Right.  
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L. H. ROWE & CO.

THE WEATHER:  
For East Florida: Partly  
cloudy tonight and Thurs-  
day, possibly rain in north  
portion. Colder north por-  
tion Thursday.

15 Cents per Week

DAYTONA, FLORIDA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1908

## A STRANGE SORT OF CURRENCY

For The Sanctuary—The Gopher  
One Thing In Nebraska, Ano-  
ther In Missouri, etc.

### FLORIDA ARTICLE BEATS ALL.

If you should ask a man from the Illi-  
nois prairies what a gopher is, he would  
say, a gray squirrel that burrows in the  
ground.

If you should ask the same question  
of a man from prairies farther west he'd  
say a striped squirrel that lives in holes  
in the ground.

A Missouri farmer would declare that  
a gopher is a mole footed brown rat that  
digs its way under the ground.

A man from Georgia would surprise  
you by the positive declaration that a  
gopher is a snake. Come on down to  
Florida and the Cracker will tell you  
that a gopher is a sort of dry land turtle  
that burrows in the ground and comes  
out to forage on vegetation.

The funny part of the matter is that  
every one of these informants would be  
right in his view. A gopher is a gray  
squirrel that burrows, a striped squirrel  
that burrows, a rat that burrows, a  
snake that doesn't burrow and a turtle  
that does, just according to the locality.  
The most interesting of all these is the  
burrowing turtle.

This turtle is a Florida institution.  
The Florida Cracker, and quite a good  
many Florida folks that hold themselves  
a good deal higher than the Cracker,  
do not on the gopher and think it the  
finest thing in the edible line ever  
created. If it can't get into a sweet po-  
tato patch it will graze on the wild  
grasses that abound in the localities  
where it lives.

The burrow of this gopher is invari-  
ably shared by its occupant with a family  
of rattlesnakes or lizards. The gopher  
plainly delights in this deadly associa-  
tion, it is itself as mild and harmless as  
a dove.

It used to be a somewhat common  
thing to see a native Floridian with a  
gopher sack across his shoulder, and of-  
ten he sallied forth with a gopher pole  
as well as gopher sack. The gopher  
usually burrows a straight hole, so a  
Cracker with a long pole with a sort of  
Shepherd's hook on the end could easily  
bring the denizen to the surface.

Male gophers meeting on the highway  
do not defer to one another and pre-  
fer one another as do Alphonse and Gas-  
ton; on the contrary, they at once be-  
gin a rooting and shoving, and usually  
keep it up till one or the other is over-  
turned, then the victor grazes around  
tantalizingly and leaves the other on his  
back to die.

Father O'Boyle tells of a desperate en-  
counter between a gopher and a big rat  
which had preempted the gopher den  
during one of the gopher's horriborizing  
forays. His ratship stood at the sub-  
terranean entrance and when the gopher  
attempted to enter he made a threaten-  
ing demonstration. The gopher's head  
ducked for the shell. The rat maintain-  
ed a menacing attitude, but when Mr.  
Gopher began to dart a sharp head with  
piercing eye toward the rat the latter  
fell back. Another rodent demonstra-  
tion and the gopher head-ducked. Then

## FIRE BUGS AROUND? LOOKS SO.

Night Clerk at Despland Recalls  
Suspicious Characters at a  
Previous Alarm.

### FIRE-ALARM WHISTLE SUGGESTED.

In talking of the Sunday morning fire  
it turns out that on the night that  
Patrolman Tinkham found a blaze in  
the rear of the Fletcher curio store on  
Beach street, two suspicious looking  
men were seen in the vicinity by the  
night clerk at the Despland hotel.

The Despland is the nearest hotel to  
the place, and situated so that one side  
faces the rear of the Beach street stores  
at this point.

On the night of the fire, which many  
though might have been of incendiary  
origin, the clerk saw two men run west  
on Magnolia, and stop on the corner of  
Palmetto, right by the hotel. They  
then parted, one running south and the  
other north. Because of the darkness  
he was unable to tell whether they were  
white or colored. These men were seen  
only a few minutes before the fire was  
discovered.

Daytona's utter helplessness in at-  
tempting to arrest the spread of the  
flames in the Sunday morning fire has  
put people to thinking and talking and  
the awakened interest is a helpful indi-  
cation. A proposition which was turned  
down once before is being discussed and  
may be brought formally to the city  
council for action. It is merely a safe-  
guard, intended to give all the people  
immediate warning of impending dan-  
ger. During the time of the Sunday  
morning fire there were people within  
two blocks of the fire who slept soundly  
through it all and learned of it only at  
the breakfast table.

It is suggested that a large whistle be  
used in connection with the proposed  
city waterworks plant for fire alarm pur-  
poses after the same plan as that sub-  
mitted to the City Council last Febru-  
ary by E. L. Gunn for the Shantz Elec-  
tric Light Plant. The proposition then  
made was to install a large whistle at  
the electric plant with half a dozen sta-  
tions in different parts of the city from  
which alarms could be turned in, the  
system to be an electrical one, and desig-  
nating the section of the city in which  
the fire was located. The city was asked  
to furnish the necessary copper wire  
and the stations, while the plant was to  
furnish the whistle and labor required  
in putting in the system and keeping it  
in order. It was proposed in this case  
to use the electric light poles for the  
alarm wires.

It is well for the public to consider  
all such suggestions and make known to  
the Council their wishes. There is no  
doubt that the consensus of opinion of  
the best judgment of thoughtful, con-  
servative citizens would carry great  
weight with the city fathers.

\*Coburn's Minstrels, not a Rabbit  
Foot tent show. Remember the date,  
Jan. 12. Wilman's Opera House

A cigar stand has been installed  
in the Little Rhody barber shop.

†Best varieties orange and grape-  
fruit trees for sale by R. S. Maley.

## RACES FOR DAYTONA BEACH. PRELIMINARIES ALL WORKED OUT. AEROPLANE DEMONSTRATION EXPECTED.

Date: March 22--23--24--25. Distance One to One Hundred and  
Twenty Miles.--Purses \$250 to \$2,000.

The 1909 automobile race meet for  
Daytona Beach is definitely decided  
upon, the preliminary arrangements are  
made, and the greatest meet ever pulled  
off in the South is gradually crystallizing  
into shape.

W. J. Morgan, the New York race pro-  
moter, is to have complete control of  
the big event. The local association,  
the Florida East Coast Automobile As-  
sociation, accepted Mr. Morgan's propo-  
sition, which was that if the club would  
take it upon themselves to raise \$4,000  
he (Morgan) would take charge of the  
meet and be responsible for its success.  
It is with this understanding that the  
event is now announced.

The Automobile Club held a meeting  
at the club house last night; F. D. Stid-  
ham, of New York, a personal representa-  
tive of W. J. Morgan, being present,  
and all the important details of the pro-  
posed meet were fully gone over and  
left to the committee to be decided  
upon.

A committee previously appointed by  
the Florida East Coast Automobile As-  
sociation had partly canvassed the local  
territory and raised \$2,500. Another  
\$500 was subscribed last night by the  
F. E. C. A. A., and it is con-  
fidently expected in view of the enormous  
business the races will make for the  
bridge companies that they will willing-  
ly contribute \$500 to the fund, which  
would leave but \$500 to be raised.

The local association at a meeting  
held some time since appointed a com-  
mittee vested with power to go ahead  
and raise funds and take whatever ac-  
tion in their judgment seemed necessary  
looking toward the proposed race meet.  
It was the preliminary work of this  
committee that led up to the decision  
last night to hold the race meet, and in  
recognition of the committee's efficient  
services they were reappointed and re-  
invested with power to go on and com-  
plete the arrangements. The committee  
consists of Edw. White, chairman; W.  
H. Evers, Dr. E. L. Potter, E. D. W.  
Rose, Col. C. M. Bingham, Major A. B.  
Foster.

With the raising of funds and the  
completion of a few other preliminaries  
the responsibility for the success of the  
meet is thrown upon "Senator" W. J.  
Morgan, the old war horse and veteran  
in such work, and that the March meet  
will be the best yet held goes without  
saying.

Most automobile manufacturers have a  
racing crew and this crew is always  
keyed up to a high pitch of interest  
when a good cash prize is hung up.  
This feature will be prominently played  
up by Mr. Morgan as a glance at the  
events herewith published show.

There is one noteworthy departure

from former races worth mentioning.  
There is no more such thing as "Or-  
mond-Daytona" races, Ormond heading  
with the big "O." It is simply DAY-  
TONA beach. Everybody who ever  
came to the races knew where the beach  
was, but so long as the East Coast Hotel  
and other interests were willing to "put  
up" for the distinction of a name in the  
big event they were permitted to share  
in the glory. Now that they have  
tightened their purse strings the tor-  
tured head of the hyphenated name is  
dropped into "innocuous desuetude."

Everybody interested in a greater and  
more popular Daytona should at once  
take up the race question and help to  
talk it.

Annual automobile racing on the beach  
means a great deal for Daytona in a  
number of ways needless here to enu-  
merate. If you will, whether a devotee  
to the automobile or not, you can help  
to make these events permanent and a  
success.

Another great drawing card that will

help to rivet the eyes of the world on  
Daytona beach during the big races will  
be the proposed aeroplane flights.

This will be a close competitor for  
public interest and with such star per-  
formances daily on the beach there is no  
reason why Daytona should not play  
the world's first fiddle March 22, 23, 24  
and 25th.

The following is the proposed pro-  
gram for Motor Car Races on Daytona  
Beach, to be held March 22d, 23d,  
24th and 25th. These races make a se-  
ries from one mile to one hundred and  
fifty, and with the exception of two  
races will be for cash prizes as well as  
trophies. The two races mentioned be-  
ing a Ladies' race and a Southern Handi-  
cap, both of which will be for amateurs.

1. Florida Sweepstakes Stock Car  
Price Handicap. Cash, \$500 and trophy  
to winner, \$250 to second; distance, 150  
miles.

2. Minneapolis trophy, \$500 cash to

Hankins says:

That eating oil is a growing and a  
sane idea. It is olive oil that is becom-  
ing one of the important foods of the  
world. Its value lies in the fact that it  
is all nutriment and leaves no harmful  
waste products in the system. We  
handle a special brand that is not only  
pure but has a delicious flavor. Price  
35, 50 and 75c.

HANKINS, The Druggist,  
AT THE PLACE  
Where Volusia Meets Beach.

IN RANKEST AFRICA.



—Rogers in New York Herald.

## DEATH LIST IS MOST APPALLING.

Feared Americans Shared The  
Common Fate—Greatest Dis-  
aster In 200 Years.

### SICKENING DETAILS MULTIPLY.

(By United Press.)

ROME, Dec. 30—While there is no  
way of yet arriving at any more than  
an approximate estimate of the dead in  
Sicily, it is evident that the disaster is  
the greatest in the world's history since  
a little more than two hundred years  
ago when the sea and earth crushed out  
the lives of two hundred thousand little  
brown men of Jeddo—now Tokio.

Publishers, after comparing various  
confusing reports coming in from the  
afflicted regions, have settled down to  
the belief that 75,000 were killed by the  
quake and tidal wave.

Thousands more are doomed to die  
more horrible deaths in the chaos that  
engulfs many towns on the Strait of  
Messina and the interior.

No news has yet been received from  
any Americans in Messina and it will be  
several days before any definite infor-  
mation concerning them can be obtained,  
but Americans resident here fear that  
their countrymen met the common fate.

Fires are still raging in many of the  
ruined towns.

Rigid enforcement of martial law has  
brought a semblance of order out of the  
utter chaos at Messina, but in the out-  
lying districts complete anarchy prevails.

Messages from the warship at Messina

say that the rescuers are utterly swamp-  
ed and it will require days to effect an  
adequate relief system.

Pneumonia and meningitis have al-  
ready broken out among the survivors.

In many places food supplies have  
been completely destroyed and it will be  
several days before the relief corps can  
reach some points.

It is utterly impossible to identify  
hundreds of the dead.

The reserves are simply gathering and  
burying the dead in great trenches.

In Reggio the sea now covers the en-  
tire city and not a building is left stand-  
ing.

Queen Helen almost swooned with  
grief on hearing the details of the awful  
tragedy. Medical assistance was neces-  
sary to revive her.

Scores of almost insane survivors  
crowded around the King and Queen  
and threw themselves with mad and  
screaming horror at the feet of the royal  
couple.

## COUNTRESS TO KEEP CHILDREN.

Boni de Castaway Loses In His  
Suit For Custody of His  
Children.

### REPROBATE LOSES EVERYTHING.

(By United Press.)

PARIS, Dec. 30—Count Boni de  
Castellane's suit against his former  
wife, Princess De Sagan, for the custody  
of the three children was decided today  
adversely to the plaintiff. The Princess  
retains the custody of the three boys  
but the court while granting her custody  
of the children reserved the right to re-  
move at any time the children from her  
care if she should be shown unworthy of  
the responsibility.

## THE FIRE FIEND LEAVES SOUVENIRS.

Diamonds Are Taken From The  
Ashes and Fine China Re-  
mains Unbroken.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, of Pittsburg,  
who were the first to discover the Sun-  
day fire have been gleaning the ashes in  
the endeavor to recover Mrs. Jackson's  
lost diamonds, which she valued beyond  
price. They were rewarded yesterday  
by finding several, and some of the rings  
and other material in which the precious  
stones were set. The gold framework  
was partly melted and bent out of all  
former resemblance to the original, but  
it is gold, nevertheless, and the original  
material, and can be worked over.

It may be recalled that the diamond  
is the purest form of carbon, and that,  
chemically speaking, the diamond has a  
family relation to the black diamond  
(coal), and is remotely akin to crucible  
material. While fires are not recom-  
mended to improve the quality of the  
diamond, it does not always impair  
them, the danger often comes in their  
being clipped or broken.

Some fine china belonging to Mrs.  
Wicking came through the fire seem-  
ingly unharmed, the delicate handles even  
being intact. They were found in the  
ashes yesterday and restored to their  
owner.

\*Coburn's Minstrels, not a Rabbit  
Foot tent show. Remember the date,  
Jan. 12. Wilman's Opera House.



FRAU LIVONIUS, A FAVORITE IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

Frau Livonius, wife of the military attaché of the German embassy at  
Washington, is one of the most beautiful women in society at the capital.  
Aside from her personal charms she is a brilliant conversationalist and is the  
life of nearly every social event which takes place in diplomatic circles. She  
is greatly admired by the president and Mrs. Roosevelt.

## The Vote As It Stood Monday Evening

DAYTONA	
Daytona High School	637,400
Halifax Rifles	446,705
Order Eastern Star	357,110
Miss Maggie Morgan	53,165
Baptist Parsonage	34,800
Colored Industrial School	17,240
Miss Jean Frances Conrad	11,440
Miss Mary Gille	4,055
OUTSIDE OF DAYTONA	
Wilman's Opera House	55,960
Seabreeze High School	37,635
M. E. Parsonage, Daytona Beach	37,210
Seabreeze Congregational Church	26,660
Kingston School	22,835
Miss Alice Daugherty, Daytona Beach	10,570
Miss Lillian F. Stewart, Daytona Beach	7,020
Miss Elsie Coates, Daytona Beach	5,235
Miss Margaret Freeman, Daytona Beach	4,725
Miss Jennie Murray, New Smyrna	3,450
Miss Ruby Spaulding, Daytona Beach	2,525
Miss Sallie Holland, Daytona Beach	2,465